

12 December 1961

The Honorable Joseph Campbell  
Comptroller General of the  
United States  
Washington 25, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Campbell:

There are a number of statutory provisions in which the Director of Central Intelligence is authorized to take certain actions. Some of these involve the expenditure of funds while others do not. Examples of the former are found in sections 3, 4, 5, and 8 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended.

The office of the Director of Central Intelligence was established by the National Security Act of 1947, which at the time of the original enactment made no provision for a Deputy Director. Consequently, it has been the practice in those cases where statutes granted authorization to the Director for him personally to take the actions specified.

The National Security Act of 1947 was amended by the act of April 4, 1953 (47 Stat. 20) to provide for the establishment of the office of a Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, who, like the Director, is appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. In explaining the need for this amendment, it was pointed out that among other considerations there was at that time no provision of law establishing a Deputy Director to perform such functions as the Director might assign to him (House Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee Hearings on S.1110, March 24, 1953).

It is my belief that with the growing complexity of the activities of this Agency it would be in the interest of efficiency and the orderly administration of the functions vested by law in

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the head of the Agency to have, except where the law specifically precludes delegations, certain authorities exercised by the Deputy Director. I believe this would be in accord with your principles concerning the expenditure of Government funds. If, therefore, you see no objection, I intend to prescribe certain areas in which the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence will take final action in connection with the expenditure of funds under the above acts, including certification of expenditures provided for in section 8 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended.

Sincerely,

/s/

John A. McCone  
Director